



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

Licensing Program



LICENSE INFORMATION FOR U.S. or CANADIAN MEDICAL SCHOOL GRADUATES

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY FOR A LICENSE

- To be eligible for a Physician's and Surgeon's license, applicants must have received all of their medical school education from and graduated from a medical school recognized or approved by the Medical Board of California. The medical school's name must exactly match the name on the Board's list of recognized medical schools. If you did not attend or graduate from a recognized or approved medical school you may be eligible for licensure pursuant to Section 2135.7 of the Business and Professions Code (effective 1/2013). Prior to submitting an application, please refer to the Board's website to verify your medical school is recognized:
http://www.mbc.ca.gov/Applicants/Medical_Schools/Schools_Recognized.aspx
- Section 31(e) of the Business and Professions Code allows the State Board of Equalization and the Franchise Tax Board to share taxpayer information with the Board. A license issued by the Board may be suspended if state tax obligation is not paid. Disclosure of your United States Social Security Number is mandatory. Section 30 of the Business and Professions Code and Public Law 94-455 (42 USCA 405 (c)(2)(c)) authorize collection of your social security number. An Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) is not acceptable. *Reporting a number on your Application that is not your U.S. Social Security Number may be grounds for denial of licensure.*
- To meet the examination requirement, you must have taken and passed all USMLE Steps 1, 2 and 3 or other acceptable examinations per Section 1328 of Title 16 California Code of Regulations. Please refer to our website to obtain a copy of Section 1328 for a listing of all acceptable examinations. Results of 75 or better are required to satisfy the examination requirement.
- To meet the postgraduate training requirement, you must have satisfactorily completed a minimum of one (1) year of ACGME and/or RCPSC accredited postgraduate training (RCPSC training must be completed in Canada) that includes at least four months of postgraduate training in general medicine. The one year of postgraduate training must consist of 12-continuous months of training within the same program.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- As an applicant, you personally are responsible for all information disclosed on your Application, Forms L1A-L1F, including any responses that may have been completed on your behalf by others. An application may be denied based upon omission, falsification or misrepresentation of any item or response on the application or any attachment. The Medical Board of California considers violations of an ethical nature to be a serious breach of professional conduct.

GENERAL INFORMATION (Continued)

- **Processing Times:** Application materials are processed in the date order in which the application is received in this office. All application forms and supporting materials are stamped with the date and time received in the office. Generally, you should anticipate receiving written correspondence confirming the status of the application for licensure within 60 days of submission of the application.

- **Fingerprints:** Applicants who reside in California must complete the electronic *Live Scan* fingerprint process. You will need to use the *Request for Live Scan Service* form that may be obtained from our website. Please refer to the following website for a listing of Live Scan facilities in California: <http://ag.ca.gov/fingerprints/publications/contact.php>

Applicants residing outside California must submit two completed fingerprint cards or have your fingerprints completed at a California Live Scan facility. Fingerprint cards will be mailed to you once the Board receives your application and appropriate processing fees. All personal data must be completed on the fingerprint cards.

Please be aware that if you have ever suffered a conviction, the record of the conviction will be reported to the Board as a result of your fingerprint inquiry. *Criminal Records Check from both the California Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation must be received prior to the issuance of a Physician's and Surgeon's License.*

- **FCVS:** The Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS) is operated by the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States, Inc. The Medical Board of California (Board) offers this link to FCVS as a convenience to our applicants. You may learn more about FCVS at: <http://www.fsmb.org/fcvs.html>.

The Board does not mandate that you use the FCVS. FCVS is NOT a requirement for filing a Physician's and Surgeon's Application. You will be required to complete the Board's application and provide all necessary supporting documentation. As part of your application, you may request FCVS to submit directly to the Board your *Medical Professional Information Profile*. We will review the information provided along with our application and determine on an individual basis the items that we will accept from FCVS.

- **Convictions:** Note that convictions adjudicated in juvenile courts or convictions two years or older under Health and Safety Code sections 11357(b), (c), (d), (e) or section 11360(b) need not be reported. Convictions expunged or set aside pursuant to section 1203.4 of the California Penal Code or equivalent non-California law **MUST** be disclosed. If in doubt as to whether a conviction should be disclosed, it is best to disclose the conviction on the application. The Board receives information regarding convictions that have been expunged.
- **Grounds for Denial:** Each applicant's credentials for medical licensure in California are reviewed on an individual basis. The Board has the authority to deny licensure based upon an applicant's act of dishonesty, unprofessional conduct, conviction of a crime, discipline of another state license, or inability to practice medicine safely.
- **Due Diligence:** Pursuant to Section 1306 of Title 16 California Code of Regulations, an application shall be deemed abandoned if an applicant fails to complete the application process within 365 days from the date of written notification from the Board of the documents needed to complete the application.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Listed below are the minimum application and supporting materials required for a U.S. or Canadian medical school graduate to obtain a Physician's and Surgeon's license. This list is not all-inclusive as additional items may be necessary based on responses provided on your *Application* or information obtained from other entities. Please refer to the *License Application Checklist for U.S. or Canadian Medical School Graduates* and our website for further detailed information regarding each requirement.

- Application for Physician's and Surgeon's License, Forms L1A-L1F
- Copy of Live Scan Request Form (CA resident) or Two Fingerprint Cards (Outside CA)
- Application fees of \$491.00 or copy of online payment receipt
- Current Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Official examination scores
- Certificate of Medical Education, Form L2
- Official medical school transcript
- Certified copy of medical diploma
- Official license verifications (if applicable)
- Certificate of Completion of ACGME/RCPSC Postgraduate Training, Form L3A-L3B
- Current Postgraduate Training Enrollment, Form L4 (if applicable)
- Explanation to Question #__ (if applicable)
- Birth Month Licensure Request
- License fees – Refer to *Fee Schedule*

Examination Documentation

- Official examination history reports must be requested from the appropriate examination agency. ***Each examination agency must submit an original, official examination history report directly to the Board to be acceptable.***

Medical Education Documentation

- A Certificate of Medical Education, Form L2, is required from each medical school of attendance. The Form L2 will need to be completed, signed and dated by the school official and affixed with the official medical school seal. Any fields or questions left unanswered will require completion of a new form. ***The Form L2 must be mailed directly from the medical school to the Board to be acceptable.***
- An original official medical school transcript, prepared on university letterhead affixed with the signature of the dean or registrar and the medical school seal, documenting all of the basic science and clinical courses completed during the medical curriculum is required. A transcript is required for each medical school of attendance. ***The transcript must be mailed directly from the medical school to the Board to be acceptable.***
- Certified copy of your medical school diploma is required. The certified copy must have the original signature of the dean or registrar of the medical school, be affixed with the official medical school seal and include a statement attesting that the copy is a true and correct copy of the original. ***The certified copy of your diploma must be mailed directly from the medical school to the Board to be acceptable.***

Postgraduate Training Documentation

- A Certificate of Completion of ACGME/RCPSC Postgraduate Training, Form L3A-L3B, is required to verify the completion of each year of accredited training. The form shall not be completed or signed prior to the last day of the training year that will be used to meet the one year of ACGME or RCPSC accredited postgraduate training required for licensure.

A Form L3A-L3B must be submitted to each postgraduate training program for completion. The current program director must provide all of the required information and responses on the form, sign and date the form, and affix the hospital seal. If a hospital seal is not available, the program director must sign in the presence of a notary and the notary seal must be affixed. A “yes” response to any of the Unusual Circumstances questions on Form L3A requires a signed and dated letter of explanation from the current program director. ***The completed Form L3A-L3B must be mailed directly from the program to the Board to be acceptable. Any letters of explanation must be provided on program letterhead, signed by the program director and mailed directly to the Board.***

Please be advised, Section 2065 of the Business and Professions Code allows graduates of U.S. or Canadian medical schools to engage in two years of ACGME-approved postgraduate training without a license. In calculating the maximum two years of training, the Board includes all approved training completed in the U.S. and Canada whether or not any credit was granted. At the end of the two-year period, you must be licensed or all clinical activities in California facilities must cease.

- Current Postgraduate Training Enrollment, Form L4, may be needed if you are currently enrolled in a slotted position in an ACGME/RCPSC accredited postgraduate training program. The Form L4 is used to verify your current accredited postgraduate training and to determine eligibility for the reduced initial licensing fee.

The Form L4 must be submitted to your current postgraduate training program for completion. The current program director must provide all of the required information and responses on the form, sign and date the form, and affix the hospital seal. If a hospital seal is not available, the program director must sign in the presence of a notary and the notary seal must be affixed. ***The completed Form L4 must be mailed directly from the program to the Board to be acceptable.***

License Verification

- Official license verification is required from each state or Canadian province in which you hold or have held a license. Verification of temporary, training, or provisional license(s) are not required. ***The license verification must be sent directly from the licensing authority to the Board to be acceptable.***

Other Items

- Please submit a signed and dated current Curriculum Vitae (CV) with your application.
- Complete the *Birth Month Request* and submit it with your application.
- The *Explanation to Application Question #__ Form* may be used to provide a detailed written explanation for a “yes” response to a question on the application. The form may be obtained from our website. The Board will also accept a signed and dated letter of explanation.